

tma: text me anytime

"Text Me", Part 4 of 6
Pastor Vince DiPaola

Prayer:
God's always ready... are you?

1) Pray PERSONALLY: Ultimately it's a conversation.

"And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him."
(Matthew 6:5-8, NIV)

2) Pray PURPOSEFULLY: Stay balanced in your approach.

"This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.'"
(Matthew 6:9-13, NIV [NASB])

Balanced Prayer Principles

A DURATION: I pray to adore God and God alone.

"O Lord...this is your kingdom. We adore you as being in control of everything."
(1 Chronicles 29:11b, LB)

C ONFESSION: I ask for God's forgiveness of my sins.

"I confess my iniquity; I am troubled by my sin." (Psalm 38:18, NIV)

T HANKSGIVING: I thank God for His goodness to me.

"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."
(1 Thessalonians 5:18, NIV)

S UPPLICATION: I share my requests and needs with God.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." (Philippians 4:6, NIV)

3) Pray POSITIVELY: Expect God's very best in response.

"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us— whatever we ask— we know that we have what we asked of him." (1 John 5:14-15, NIV)

"The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and wonderful results."
(James 5:16b, NLT)

4) Pray PERPETUALLY: Make it consistent in your life.

"Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up."
(Luke 18:1, NIV)

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." (Romans 12:12, NIV)

"Pray continually." (1 Thessalonians 5:17, NIV)